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# Farmer

AND

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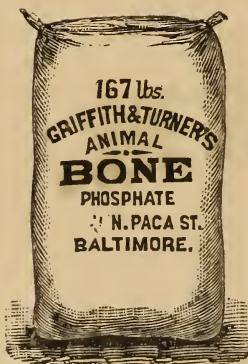
## Ayer's Sarsaparilla.

saparilla, and am glad to recommend it to all who need a safe blood-purifier."

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It gives perfect satisfaction."—E. I. Hill, M. D., 381 Sixth ave., N. Y. City.

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## AND NEW FARM.

Vol. XXVI. BALTIMORE, December 4, 1889. No. 15.

For The Maryland Farmer.

### COUNTY ROADS.

That the roads outside of the main traveled pikes are generally impassable for ordinary vehicles during a large part of the winter and spring months is a fact so well and generally known that it is unnecessary to comment upon it.

The ordinary methods of making and repairing roads have insured this unsatisfactory condition; for little regard is paid to talent, to science, to locality and to the principles of permanency which are essential to thoroughness in road-making or in road repairing.

Above all things when a road is made, it should be made for a permanent highway. The foundation should be laid for all time, so that the annual repairs will be as light as possible, the elements having but little effect upon it. The foundation should be of such a character that it can-

not be ruptured by frost, nor furrowed by floods, nor deeply cut by travel.

In European countries roads made have remained for centuries without being essentially disturbed, requiring comparatively little repairs and are now vastly better than any of our pikes in the season of frost and in the spring breaking up.

It is not possible to go into the particulars necessary to a thorough management of road-making, even were we competent to set forth the work in detail. But a number of road machines have been invented recently which greatly lighten the labor, and under skillful hands make the work reliable.

The ploughing preparatory to work, the scraping, the graduating of the road bed, the preparation of material, the rolling, all have especial implements some of them moved by horse power and some by steam and calculated for thorough work.

The cost of these things should not be

considered objectionable when the value of good roads is calculated by us, especially if we regard a series of years, or for that matter a series of generations, as benefitted by the character of the work.

We speak of calculating the value of good roads; but that is an utter impossibility. We only know that they have certain marked effects upon the entire region, which effects we may mention because they are so readily known to all.

They give to any locality a good name. We have had occasion to point out to strangers recently many farms which are for sale and to invite them to visit and see for themselves the character and desirability of the places. Among the first questions asked is one in reference to the roads, and the decision often turns upon our answer to this question.

If we know how the roads in the neighborhood average and can recommend them even in a small measure the inquirer will generally be willing to examine; but if we can emphatically say the roads are good, there is no hesitation when invited to ride a few miles to visit a place.

Thus good roads invite a good class of immigrants, and lead them to favorable conclusions as to the country through which they are travelling. Thoughtful persons who wish to make their homes permanent, will always be influenced largely by the surroundings in making their choice, and they will shun a locality where the roads are almost impassible during any part of the year.

It is patent to them, as it should be to everyone, that good roads save a large amount of time in transportation. Twice the amount of produce can be moved in the same period on roads properly constructed, than on the ordinary hilly, stony or rutted roads which so disgrace large portions of our land.

Consider, too, how much easier heavy loads are moved, and the wear on the animals which bear the burden of toil should not be put aside in a thoughtless way. An animal worn upon rough, soft, jarring, uneven or gullied roadways is in constant suffering. Its life is shortened and many of its ailments are the direct result of the roads, or rather of the want of decent roads.

Good roads, too, save very many repairs upon all the vehicles which must be used, from the lightest carriage to the heaviest team wagon. Wear is the great expense on the transportation of all produce to market by teams. On a smooth road free from inequalities, washes and ruts this wear is reduced to a very small item comparatively.

All these things show that good roads are among the principal items which add to the value of farms. They easily double the value of property, wherever they are made conspicuous by their presence and use. They invite use by all those who are able to enjoy a pleasant ride, and who love the real luxury of a good highway. And if such seek a country home, you may be sure it will not be where roads are rough and always broken, or where mud has no bottom in the spring time. It will be where the roads are good throughout all seasons, and where the enjoyment can be a matter of boast as well as a real blessing to them and to all who may visit them.

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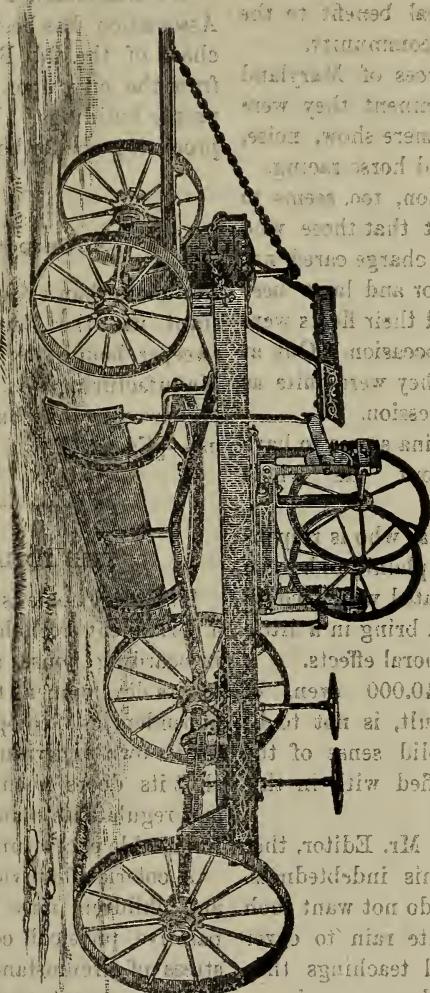
For The Maryland Farmer.

#### THE GREAT EXPOSITION.

MR EDITOR:

If you will permit me, now that the Exposition is past, to offer a few remarks on the subject from my point of view, I would like to do so.

As I look back upon it I do not feel



**New Light Champion of the American Road Machine Co.**

very great satisfaction, independent of the fact that it was such a great financial failure.

Its success was made to turn upon outside show, which did not have very much to do with any real benefit to the State, or to the farming community.

Instead of the resources of Maryland being made at all prominent they were wholly covered up by mere show, noise, parades, sham battles and horse racing.

The immense procession, too, seems to have developed the fact that those who had the management in charge cared not how prominent the liquor and lager beer elements were made, and their floats were the great feature of the occasion. Out at the fair grounds, also, they were quite as prominent as in the procession.

A want of moral stamina seems to have been visible throughout the whole affair.

I do not know of course who is responsible for this; but it was plainly to be seen that anything was tolerated which could add to the attraction and bring in a little money regardless of its moral effects.

That \$30,000, or \$40,000 even, of indebtedness should result, is not to be wondered at; for the solid sense of the people is not to be trifled with in this way.

It may be said by you, Mr. Editor, that the rain caused all this indebtedness. Perhaps it did, but we do not want such exhibitions as will invite rain to cover up and defeat the evil teachings they propose to enforce upon the community.

Would not the exposition, had it been clear and pleasant, have proved a grand "orgie"?

An exposition representing the State of Maryland, if placed in competent hands, would be a vast benefit; but if all principle is to be swallowed up in the effort of obtaining notoriety, if noise is to win

against worth every time, then an exposition had better be deferred to some more promising season.

J. B. S

We understand a permanent Exposition Association has been formed for the purchase of the old Bolton Depot grounds from the city, upon which to locate the proper buildings. We think this move a promising one for both city and state. [Ed.

#### A Carpet Sweeper.

For more than a year we have had in constant use the Family Favorite carpet sweeper, bought by us from the Lovell Manufacturing Co., of Erie, Pa. It is the best sweeper that has ever been used by us.—[Ed. M. F.

#### THE IDEAL HOME.

The ideal home is not a nomad, but has a permanent freehold. It does not exist in boarding houses and hotels. It needs for its development the mutual cares and dependencies of co-operative labor; it needs for its own individuality the authority to shut its doors about itself, to formulate and regulate its manner of life to a degree impossible except under its own roof.

A coterie of individuals—father, mother and children, may live together in comparative physical comfort at a hotel, if stress of circumstance force them temporarily to accept such a substitute; but if they are a family it will not be to them a home. For a family has an object in life beyond mere existence. The father is not simply the bread winner, the mother the care taker, and the children irresponsible individuals concerned only in their own enjoyment. The family is a life-saving institution, thoroughly equipped and

properly organized. It is set up by God as one of his mightiest agencies for the rescue of a wrecked world—a world that more than anything else needs homes for shelter and salvation. Our local charities, our attempts at alleviating the condition of the poor, our utmost expenditures for reform can give us no permanent results until somehow we can reach the home and the family.

The ideal home is co-operative. One purpose thoroughly understood animates all its members, and there are no conflicting interests, no tyrannical government, and no rebellions or strikes. In fact, I greatly doubt the value of strikes of any kind in the family, but incline to the opinion that any apparent gain is more than counterbalanced by evil. Perfect co-operation is only possible where there is perfect understanding and common point of view between husband and wife, parents and children. It can never be secured where, on the subject of expenditure, for instance, the father is high tariff, the mother free trade and the children licensed freebooters whose object is to plunder both parties.

It need hardly be said that the ideal home is religious. Its fundamental idea being development, it cannot ignore the spiritual nature, which is the breath to the clay of all else. Its very authority and sanctions are divine, and it shares with the Eternal his fatherly function of protecting the immature soul that has not yet learned to choose the good and refuse the evil. We shall never properly estimate the importance of fundamental religious work in the home until the Protestant Church takes a lesson from the Roman Catholic, and claims every child of Christian parentage as an actual, not possible, member—to be watched over and kept in the fold, not lost and then brought back. As well abandon your child to indulge

appetites, form habits, and establish associations that will plunge him in physical ruin, and then turn him over to the physicians for possible healing and redemption as miss the chance of laying the foundation stones of character in the home, and trust to some chance revivalist to do by and by your work for you.—*Emily Huntington Miller.*

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2. Nearest R. R. station, or Steamboat landing, or both.
3. Number of acres.
4. What kind of soil. Sandy, clay, or mixed.
5. What kinds of woodland, and how much.
6. Condition of dwellings and outbuildings.
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ISSUED EVERY WEEK.

**SPECIAL NOTICE.**

Those who are in arrears for the year 1888, will please take notice that our terms are \$1.00 in advance, and \$1.50 if not paid until the close of the year. We wish to give all our subscribers evidence of our liberal disposition in this respect, and will now give them a reasonable time, say one month, to pay at \$1.00 a year, for all arrearages, after which they will be charged at published rates.

Any young lady can add much in cash to her earnings by giving a short time to The Maryland Farmer. We want one to work for us at each Post Office.

Less than two cents a week to obtain 52 numbers of the Maryland Farmer, crowded

full of valuable information on farm topics and always up with the times.

Although the Maryland Farmer will enter upon its 27 year with the first of January 1890, nothing of an old-fogy character will be found in its pages.

The meat food of the future is destined to be mutton; all other meats are rapidly degenerating, so that dangerous maladies are communicated by them.

A pleasant home is essential for a happy life, and it should be a constant effort of each father to obtain such a home for his family.

If you are in a country home on a farm, do not come to the city with a supposition that you will grow rich and thrive without doubt or trouble.

**OUR PRINCIPLES.**

Opposition to all adulterations and frauds;

To all monopolies and trusts;

To extravagant and unjust taxation;

To the holding of vast tracts of our land by foreigners.

We advocate that every family should own their home;

This home to a liberal extent should not be liable for debt;

This home, to the same extent, should be free from taxation;

The reward for labor should equal that of the professions.

Our politics is not for party, but is for the general welfare;

More farmers in our legislatures;

More money and less taxes;

Farmers must league together and redeem the land.

## TWELVE HELPFUL RULES.

Here are some that have been tried with noticeably good effect.

1. Do not interrupt others in conversation unnecessarily.

2. Be unselfish.

3. Have courage to speak the truth.

4. Do not shirk.

5. If you have been to blame, do not try to throw the blame on some one else, "If she hadn't done so-and-so, it wouldn't have happened."

6. When you have used an article put it back in its place, especially if it is one used by the family in common.

7. Remember that by your conduct persons judge of your home-training and home-influences.

8. Be careful to meet your engagements promptly.

9. Be punctual at meals.

10. Whatever is worth doing at all is worth doing well.

11. Help others.

12. Let your friends see that you can be depended upon to keep your word. It will be a comfort to them to have some one to turn to in time of need, and it will be a deep and lasting pleasure to you to know they have confidence in you.—*Virginia Alston, in October Ladies' Home Journal.*

## HOT WATER INCUBATOR.

The best in the Market.

Hammontown Style.

No. 75. Regular Price \$18.

Our Price \$15.

Complete and Perfect.

Now is the time to commence work.

May be seen at

Maryland Farmer Office

27 E. Pratt st., Baltimore, Md.

## ON ANOTHER ERRAND.

A Vermont minister who is not too grave and dignified to enjoy a good joke, even when it is on himself, narrates a ludicrous incident of his early life. Soon after being settled over a new congregation, he one day received a note asking him to be at home that evening at eight o'clock. The writer added that he was intending to be married at that hour, and would call at the parsonage with his bride.

It was but a few minutes before eight o'clock when the door-bell rang, and a moment later the servant announced that a young couple awaited the minister in the parlor.

Going down into the parlor accompanied by his wife, the pastor found a neatly dressed, intelligent-appearing young man and a bright looking young woman, who rose to receive him.

"I am Mr. Homer," said the young man, "and this is Miss Cross."

Having another engagement for the evening, the minister said immediately, "I received your note this morning, and we will proceed with the ceremony at once. Please join your right hands."

In great bewilderment, which the minister mistook for natural embarrassment, the young couple timidly clasped hands, and the ceremony was about to begin, when the young man said,—

"I—we—what ceremony is it?"

"Why, the ceremony of marriage, of course."

"O-o-o-h!" shrieked the young lady, withdrawing her hand and covering her face with a handkerchief.

"I don't understand this at all," said the young man sharply. "We came here simply as a committee from the Young People's Society of the Methodist Church to ask you and your wife to be present at a public entertainment we are about to give, and"—

It was now the minister's turn to say "O-o-o-h," and he said it in genuine astonishment at the very moment that the maid ushered in the young couple who had " matrimonial intentions."

The mistake evidently started the first young couple into new lines of thought; for, a year later, their own pastor being ill, they called upon the Baptist pastor, and did not protest that he was going too far when he again asked them to join hands.—*Our Paper.*

#### PLEASANTRIES.

Can a dude be called a ground swell?

In baseball as in cookery, the best batter takes the cake.

Out at sea a ship occasionally heaves in sight, but a seasick passenger prefers to heave out of sight.

Registrar of Voters—"How old are you madam?"

Ancient Female—"I have seen nineteen summers, sir."

Registrar—"Er um! How ong have you been blind.

"Pa, where do you keep your wings in the day time?"

"What do you mean, Orestes? I have no wings."

"Well, ma said you were a night owl."

"Did you hear of the snake up at the museum that was trying to get inside of itself?"

"Yes, they call him the dude anaconda, because he's such a swallow-tail."

His First Offense.—Mr. Hyson—"Mr. Cypher, you were absent without leave yesterday."

Mr. Cypher—"Yes, sir. I was married very unexpectedly yesterday."

Mr. Hyson—"Well, sir, you will please see that it does not occur again."

"Look at Brown over there in the corner."

Smith: "Yes: buried in thought."

Jones: "Mighty shallow grave, isn't it?"

Inquirer—"How does your protracted meeting prosper, parson?"

Parson: "Oh, well, there's a great awakening at the close of every sermon."

Lady (to sea-captain): "How do you manage to find your way across the ocean?"

Captain: "By the compass. The needle always points to the north."

"But suppose you wish to go south?"

The careful and judicious mother in every station of life will think seriously how she can best train her young daughters to a practical knowledge of those things which will most contribute to their future usefulness and happiness. A young girl may have a special taste or capacity which she should be encouraged to develope, but not to the exclusion of all other branches of education; and though, while under the mother's eye, perfectness may not be attained in any department, a wise training of the powers will tend towards a harmonious and happy development of character and abilities in after life. No mother, therefore, should excuse herself from giving her daughter suitable instruction in those household duties that so much affect the comfort of a family. Whatever position in life she may occupy, the knowledge thus gained, and the imperceptible influence on the character, not merely of the knowledge itself, but of the early impressions of its importance, are genuinely valuable.

## SCRAPS.

• **HELPS BY THE WAY.**

BY NELLIE M. RICHARDSON.

As the days pass swiftly onward,  
One by one,  
Leave all you've hoped and planned for  
Still undone;

As you see the shadows gather  
Thick before your hurrying feet,  
And the way seems very lonesome,  
And the path grows very steep.—

Courage, friend, be not disheartened;  
Lend a hand!  
And the faltering brother near you  
Help to stand!  
Just a little heavier, maybe,  
Than your own,  
Is the load which he is bearing  
All alone.

Yes, the days are passing swiftly,  
But we may  
Find a ray of light to cheer us  
On our way.  
As we journey up the hillside,  
Shadows come, but need not stay,  
If we look for gleams of sunshine  
When the cloud has passed away.

Ah, friends, life is not so dreary  
After all!  
'Tis the way we do our duties  
Makes them small.  
Brand and glorious could the humblest  
Life-work be,  
If we only try to do it  
Worthily.

Use your time, but do not waste it:  
Moments fly.  
You will find a time for resting  
By and by.  
While so many hearts are breaking,  
While so many hearts are sad.  
Happy we should be, if only  
We can make one poor heart glad.

---

Do not foret that about ninety five out  
of every hundred business men fail—  
sorrow and anguish of mind result which  
sadden one's whole life.

Whistling doesn't make the locomotive  
go. It is the silent steam.

Do not wait for extraordinary opportunities  
for good actions, but make use of  
common situations.

The best of all penances is to do daily  
and hourly the will of God rather than  
our own.

A great part of our existence serves no  
other purpose than that of enabling us  
to enjoy the rest.

Our safety is not chiefly in strength of  
will, but in cleaving to a holier companion-  
ship which shall arouse the better elements  
of the soul.

Where there is no increase of moral  
excellence there is always danger of de-  
crease. Conscience without fresh stimu-  
lants is prone to grow inert.

I have seen beneath the microscope a  
seed three thousand years old start into  
instant germination when touched with a  
drop of water. So a human soul long ap-  
parently lifeless begins to grow when  
touched by the water of life.

Poe first thought of "The Bells" when  
walking in the streets of Baltimore on a  
winter's night. He rang the bell of a law-  
yer's house (a stranger to him), walked  
into the gentleman's library, shut himself  
up and the next morning presented the  
lawyer with a copy of his celebrated poem.

The fibre of silk is the longest contin-  
uous fibre known. An ordinary cocoon  
of a well-fed silk-worm will often reel one  
thousand yards, and accounts are given  
of a cocoon yielding one thousand two  
hundred and ninety-five yards, or a  
fibre nearly three-quarters of a mile in  
length.

## MUSHROOMS,

## HOW TO GROW THEM.

B. F. Johnson, of Champaign, Ills., writes to *The Field and Farm* about growing mushrooms as follows:

"In September, 1888, I planted a brick of the spawn in a field of rich pasture land, the operation being the simple act of raising the sod with a spade, dropping into the cavity a piece of the spawn as large as a walnut and pressing the sod back again. Seeing nothing of mushrooms in the spring of 1889, late in June I made a second experiment with the mycelium of a different character, obtained from the famous seed house of Mme. Vilmorin, Paris, France.

"The patch, a few rods square, after planting as above, was covered with five or six inches of good cow manure. Heavy rain fell after the planting and the soil was saturated. Some time in July when the blue grass had come forward and covered the surface with a thick mass of vegetation, it was mown and carried off, leaving the naked sward exposed. During the summer and September I watched both fields closely, but saw no signs of mushrooms and had pretty nearly given up the experiment as a failure, either from imperfect spawn or improper method of handling—and thinking perhaps drought and heat had interfered in the business—when on the morning of the 2d of October, I was rewarded by the sight of my first mushroom on the field planted in 1888.

"From my experience so far I conclude that the spawn or germ of the mushroom, once in rich soil, resists for months high or low temperature, drought and saturation; but the mycelium does not develop into the perfect mushroom that pushes above ground, except under certain soil and weather conditions of heat and moisture, and temperature sustained for some days between sixty and seventy-five degrees Fahr. Days with these characteristics are most apt to occur in May and October for these latitudes, and sometimes in unusually cool seasons in the summer months. Judging from what I have observed so far, I conclude there is no difficulty in growing mushrooms on land as rich in nitrogen and the phosphates as the black soil prairie, but the intense features of the climate so

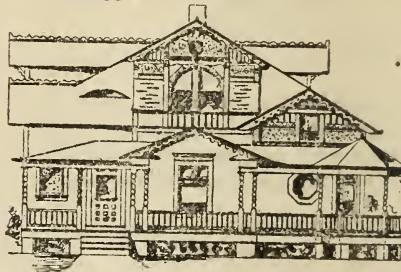
No quicker way of getting a few dollars for your own use, than to get a few subscribers for Maryland Farmer at less than 2cts a week,

much restrict the season of harvest, sometimes abolishing it altogether, that the crop must needs be a precarious one. Let me add in conclusion that I forgot or neglected in both cases when planting to fertilize and reinforce each piece of spawn with say a teaspoonful of nitrate of potash as a complement to the soil, which Baron Hooghverts, a Belgian specialist in mushroom culture, regards as essential to success."

## SOMETHING LIKE A SOUTHERN HOME.

## Plans and Description of a Very Comfortable Picturesque House.

There is something suggestive of a southern home in this floor plan, although it is built in a northern city. The large main room, which extends the full length of the house, the arrangement of rooms on each side, the broad expanse of porch in front, the wide, low pitched roof, the kitchen extension in the rear, all suggest the southern house.



ELEVATION.

It is not uncommon in such buildings to have the entrance directly in front. There is always objection to a direct passage into a large room. The placing of a vestibule in front of or at one side of a large hall changes it into a room.

If there were a door in the front part of the large central room of this house there would necessarily have to be a hat rack or other repository for wraps, umbrellas, etc., which never present themselves agreeably to the eye. Furthermore, in placing them away from the door, there would be a passage across the room to the hat rack, which would be marked at times with dirt and dust brought in from the outside. The vestibule and stair-hall change all this. In this instance the stair-hall is placed at the side, which gives an unobstructed view from the front part of the main room. This stairhall can be covered by a rug, which can be carried out of the house for cleansing.

One of the great objections to hard wood floors in houses which must be cared for at a moderate expense is the large amount of labor they require. They are easily soiled, and

show the slightest disfigurement, so that it is necessary more than once every day for some one to wipe them up in spots, if not all over. In houses where expense or energy of service is not important this may be a small matter, but as the general condition must contemplate economy of energy, it is important that this matter be considered. The disposition which leads those of moderate means to follow the example of wealthy neighbors tends to the use of many hard wood floors. A good body Brussels carpet is easily taken care of as compared with a hard wood floor, and the first cost is but little more.

The inside finish of the entire lower floor of this house is of hard wood. Some little variety is used. The main room is quartered oak, the chamber white maple, the library sycamore, the stair hall quartered oak and the dining room walnut. The plastering has a gray finish—not the white, glaring color so common. In the dining room, about half way up the wall, on all sides, is a shelf which is about six inches wide. It extends between casings of all doors and windows. On the under side of it are cup hooks, to which may be hung an occasional cup, or through which smilax or other green or decorative material may be trained. The little china closet in the corner of the dining room has glass doors in its upper section and shelves and paneled doors below.

On the second floor are three full height, square bedrooms. The larger rooms are in the high part of the roof where the height is sufficient to admit ceiling with light collar beams. Not even the upper corners of the rooms are clipped. The height to the small room is derived by placing a dormer the size of the room on that side of the house.

To return to the first floor. The main room is divided by a circular form of ornamental fretwork so that there is a large passage through the center. The view from the front through this fretwork to the mantel and seat in the rear is very charming. The mantel itself is of wood. The facing is of enameled tile. Very little wood work shows on the front through the shelf.

The porch is a very elegant feature of this house, presenting, as it does, large unobstructed space for this room outside the house. The main body of the porch, as will be seen, is to one side of the entrance, thus no one is disturbed by a passage from the front steps to the door. The large gable in front of the porch is left open to the sheathing line above the rafters. The effect of this is not only agreeable, but it lets more light into the main room than would be the case if the gable were filled with ornamental forms of wood work, shingles or other material which obstructs the light to a line with the top of the columns of the other part of the porch.

There is another point about this open gable which can only make itself apparent from experience. That is, there is a feeling pleasantly in contrast with the depressing effect which comes from sitting under the low roof

The denuding excitement has nearly subsided; but do not forget that the horns of cattle are a nuisance and can be easily prevented from growing.

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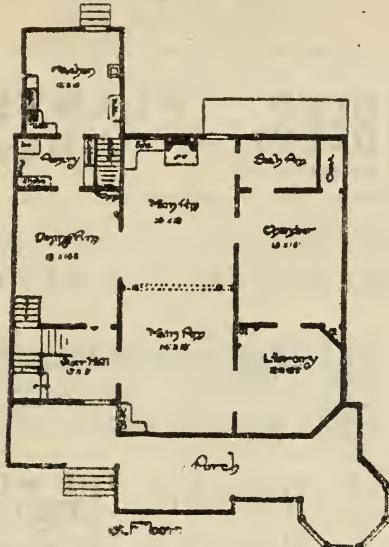
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of the ordinary form of porch. One can sit under this gable, look up and see a large expanse of sky above him; otherwise, there is little more than the horizon to be seen. A number of people sitting on such a porch will naturally move from each end to the center to get under the opening of the gable without really knowing the reason.



GROUND FLOOR.

The cost of this house and appurtenances is shown by the schedule.

Building—First floor finish, hard wood:	
second floor finish, pine	\$2,600
Privy, vaults and sheds	35
Cisterns and connections, 100 barrels	50
Illuminating gas pipe	25
Plumbing, cellar sink, kitchen sink, bath-tub, water closet, wash sink, street washer, city and cistern water	225
Gas fixtures	50
Mantels and grates	80
Furnace	200
<b>Total.</b>	<b>\$3,265</b>

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The feeding value of yellow field pumpkins for milch cows, hogs and sheep is based upon the amount of dry matter in 100 pounds, as well as on the chemical composition of that matter. The whole pumpkin has about 89 per cent. water and 11 dry matter; 0.6 of 1 per cent. of this is albuminoids, 9.8 carbohydrates, 0.1 fat and 1 ash. The value of this when figured in the ordinary way is about 10 cents per 100 pounds, but as

Sheep should have a shed with plenty of litter—their wool protects them from cold little more than the hair of other animals.

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The Maryland Farmer,

the pumpkin contains a little pectic acid, which becomes a digester of other food and gives it an additional value, it may be said that good ripe pumpkins are worth 10 to 12 cents per 100 pounds to feed in moderate quantity with other food in the milk ration or for fattening.

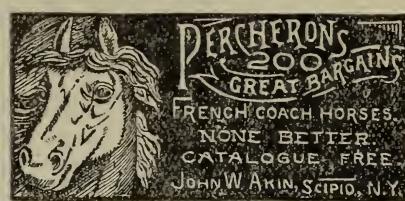
A small quantity of pumpkins gives a relish and improves the flavor of the milk. But with reference to the effect of the seeds, care must be taken if the seeds are fed to cows that they are mixed evenly with the rest of the pumpkin. The seeds are given in some cases as a diuretic medicine. Their action is apt to be on the kidneys, and dairymen often say that their cows shrink in their milk when freely fed with pumpkins. And if the seeds get separated so the cows eat more than the natural proportion of seeds, this effect upon the kidneys would naturally affect the secretion of milk.

The Chinese eat pumpkin seeds between the courses of dinner, and these are probably taken as an appetizer and digester. These seeds are rich in nitrogen and oil and very nutritious. Some feeders have been very successful in fattening pigs with a small allowance of pumpkin seeds in connection with other food. These seeds used as a part of the food for poultry would fatten them rapidly. It should not constitute more than one-fifth to one-fourth of the food given to poultry. The dry matter in pumpkin seeds and the stringy parts amount to about 25 per cent., or more than double that of the whole pumpkin. The nutritive value of the seeds, per weight, is four times as much as that of the body of the pumpkin without the seeds. In connection with the foregoing, Country Gentleman says: If pumpkins were sliced up or pulped, so that the seeds would be all mixed in evenly, there would be no danger in feeding them to cows, other cattle or hogs, and it would be a very desirable addition when combined with other foods.

#### WINDOW PLANTS.

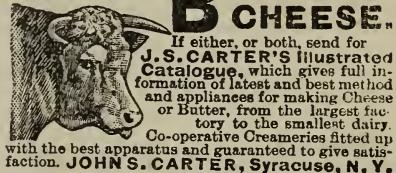
People who have all out-doors to run over, and as much land as they want to do fancy gardening on, would scarcely know what one meant by "window-gardening," and might think it a facetious reference to the so-called "land-

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scapes" produced by frost on the panes. Know then, fortunate mortals of the village and country place, that millions of your fellow-beings are so crowded in cities that they cannot command so much as one square yard for earth culture, and yet so saturated with the instinct therefor, that window-gardening has become a science, and very ingenious appliances for it are manufactured.

The commonest and plainest, of course, is an ordinary box, some four or five feet long, eight inches or so wide, and perhaps six inches deep; and this is so set on the window-sill that the sash may descend exactly upon the central line of it, if necessary. But this is seldom the case, as such gardening is confined to the summer months. These boxes are made of wood, iron, terra cotta, &c., according to the taste or means of the owner, and of late some extremely fancy ones have appeared, ornamented with tiles. So as in all other lines it may be expected that that which was begun in a sort of necessity will run into a "fad," and one will see "box-gardens" of marvelous finish, perhaps trimmed with shells, and delicately painted in pink and blue.

Window gardening is already quite common in England, the climate being perhaps more favorable to it than in America in summer. And it may be added that Americans have not known



WINDOW BOXES.

land scarcity quite long enough yet to develop the taste in its fullness. Many streets in the densest sections of London and other cities present a very pleasing appearance in summer from the lavish displays in the windows. The plants used are much the same as in hanging baskets, and the finest external effect is produced when drooping or even trailing species are used. For upright plants, geraniums, heliotropes and unignonette are the favorites. Of course, however, each one's taste will direct in this matter. There are also boxes so constructed as to sit upon the outer part of the window-sill in summer and indoors in the winter.

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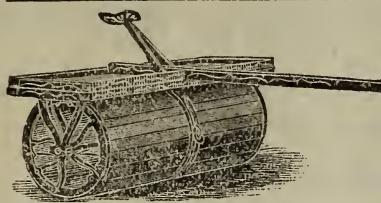
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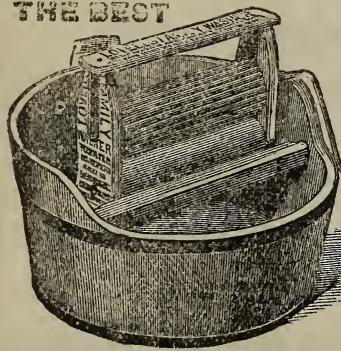
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